

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 02517 260657Z

11

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 260624Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4237

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2517

EXDIS

FOR S/S AND NEA FROM HOUGHTON AND MACK

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LE

SUBJECT: SHELLING OF EMBASSY BEIRUT

REF: NICOSIA 2491 (NOT SENT BEIRUT)

1. WE RAISED WITH DORY CHAMOUN THE PROBLEMS CAUSED FOR US BY THE SHELLING OF EMBASSY BEIRUT AND OTHER AREAS IN RAS BEIRUT INHABITED BY WESTERNERS. HE EXPLAINED THE SHELLING OF WEST BEIRUT AS REACTION TO PALESTINIAN/LEFTIST INITIATIVE IN SHELLING EAST BEIRUT, A MATTER NOT PROTESTED BY ANY WESTERN GOVERNMENTS. CHRISTIAN POLICY IS TO FIRE BACK INTO AREAS BEING USED BY THE OTHER SIDE'S ARTILLERY. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS MAY DAMAGE FOREIGN PROPERTY AND ENDANGER THE LIVES OF FOREIGNERS. HE POINTEDLY REMARKED THAT SHELLING OF JOUNIEH, ONE ROUND OF WHICH LANDED CLOSE TO HOTEL MONTEMAR, WAS COMING FROM ARTILLERY CLOSE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY. WE EMPHASIZED AS STRONGLY AS WE COULD THAT WHATEVER THE REASON FOR THE SHELLING, ITS CONTINUANCE WOULD RAISE PROBLEMS NOT ONLY FOR OUR EMBASSY BUT OTHERS AS WELL.

2. ICRC REPS TOLD US THAT THEY ARE MAKING EFFORTS TO PERSUADE BOTH SIDES TO STOP THE SHELLING OF CIVILIAN POPULATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, CHRISTIANS, EMBASSIES, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NICOSI02517
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760325-0551
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760817/aaaaaobr.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 NICOSIA 2491
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <05 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHELLING OF EMBASSY BEIRUT
TAGS: PFOR, LE, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006